

When The Latest Trends Try And Bite Off More Than They Can Actually Chew

Himaali Dhal, GT Network

Fashion is a dynamic realm that undergoes constant evolution. And in this capricious world, trends come and go, with some of them leaving us scratching our heads in utter disbelief. Be it the glamorous runways of Paris or the bustling streets of New York, these logic-defying and utterly impractical trends have a stronghold everywhere. So, hop on as we take a critical glance at some of the most memorable (read: absurd and inexplicable) fashion fads (read: follies) that have left us raising our eyebrows in wonder and pondering the question - "What were they even thinking?"

The trend: *Vo dekho logo aagaya*

The fall: Logomania, a trend in which fashion lovers, in a bid to gain visibility and recognition, proudly flaunt company logos in the most extravagant of ways, first invaded the fashionscape in the 80s and 90s. Its history can be traced back to one man, Dapper Dan, an artist based in New York. Labelled the father of logomania then, he introduced high-end luxury styles in the rap and hip-hop scene of the time. Brands like Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Dior etc., soon followed suit, downright turning what was once a sign of exclusivity and elegance into an offensive show of excessive materialism. In addition to promoting materialism, the trend also encour-



The Fashion Follies

aged a culture of superficiality in the society, shifting focus from showcasing individuality and originality to just showing brand loyalty. The 2023 version of logomania, too, is all about rocking designer pieces but in a much more if-you-know-you-know way, with the spirit of showing off still alive and well. And it's not subtle; all-over prints are taking over this

season with miniature logos making an esteemed appearance on tank tops everywhere. Kylie Jenner, for instance, wore a branded Loewe tank to a show in Paris just last month.

The trend: That's not your size

The fall: Do you recall the time when tailored clothes were in style? Those days seem like a dis-

tant memory, considering the sea of vogueish stuff, oversized clothing specifically, we are drowning in at present. Originally introduced in the 1990s, the oversized style seems to have been conquering our wardrobes since forever. And at times that it was not, it got revived in some way or the other in the name of true comfort and homeliness. The recent COVID-

19 pandemic, for instance, acted as a catalyst for its nth comeback two years back. But how much comfort is too much comfort? For designers today have completely redefined the term 'oversized' with items like trousers that can be used as tents and puffer jackets that truly look like marshmallows. The worldwide plus-size apparel market, as a result, is anticipated to grow to 696,712 million USD by 2027. Remember seeing Justin Bieber in an extra-large suit by Balenciaga at the Grammy Awards? Well, it appears that the fashion industry has lost the significance of balance completely.

The trend: Mix & not-a-match

The fall: Though prints on prints were once worn by celebrities across the globe, especially to hide their pregnancy or to cover up their body fat, now it seems like the days of matching accessories and coordinating outfits no longer exist. Just imagine combining polka dots with animal prints, or neon stripes with floral fits. Feels weird, doesn't it? "Not exactly," screams musician Maggie Rogers and her First Annual Time 100 Next gala outfit in all caps. For, as per the most recent fashion trend going around, combining different pieces is the way to go. While it takes skill to put together a unified outfit with contrasting items, some fashion lovers have gone above and beyond with this concept, and we're not sure if we are here for it.

Continued on page 6...

THE GT POLL

Do you think Elon Musk's decision of removing the option of blocking users from your profile on X (formerly known as Twitter) is correct?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, checkout our Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next

Hindi Diwas Special

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Feminism is the way

In conversation with Dr Harshali Singh, a member judge at the District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission and an author.

...more on page 3

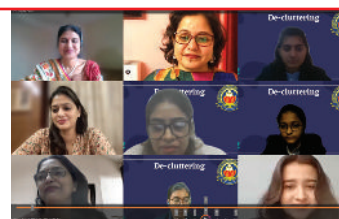
What's inside



Happy Raksha Bandhan!

Let's celebrate the eternal bond of siblinghood as the team of AIS Jagdishpur tells us all about Raksha Bandhan and what it entails.

...more on page 6-7



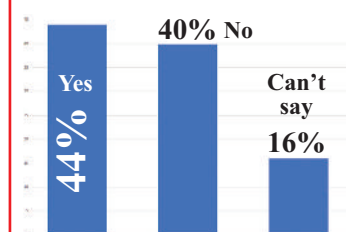
The art of letting go

Have a look at experts debating on De-cluttering, the cause chosen by the Youth Power team of AIS VKC Lucknow (2021-22).

...more on page 10

POLL RESULT for GT Edition August 21, 2023

Do you think the US Republican party will pick an Indian-American as its presidential candidate in the year 2024?



Results as on August 26, 2023

Around The WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe

USA

FDA approves RSV vaccine

On August 21, 2023, the US became the first nation in the world to approve a maternal RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) vaccine dubbed Abrysvo. The vaccine, made by Pfizer, is given to mothers late in their pregnancies and provides protection to infants against RSV through their first six months of life. RSV is a common respiratory virus that primarily affects young children and the elderly, and is known to cause Lower Respiratory Tract Disease (LRTD).



FRANCE

Airport renamed after Queen

In a remarkable display of diplomacy, the nation's Touquet-Paris-Plage airport is set to be renamed after Queen Elizabeth II to honour her legacy. Known as "the most British of French resorts", the airport, on Aug 21, was given the greenlight to go ahead with the renaming plan by King Charles III himself. Through the move, the airport also aspires to reinforce the connection between itself and the UK, fostering an inviting environment for tourists arriving from across the channel.



FINLAND

Ban on swastika

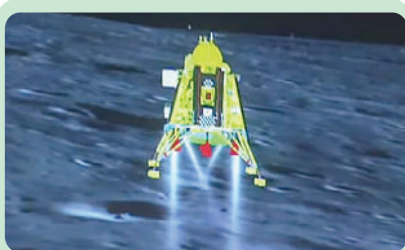
As racism scandals rock the nation, its new government proposed to put a ban on Soviet and Nazi symbols, like the swastika and the hammer and sickle, owing to their "promotion of discrimination and hatred". The initiative is part of a broader strategy led by Ben Zyskowitz, an MP from the Coalition Party, to promote equal opportunity and wipe out discrimination from the nation. Currently, there's no consensus among members of government factions regarding the ban. Subsequently, a vote for the same is set to take place in September.



SYRIA

Economic crises worsens

The govt., on August 23, 2023, doubled public sector wages and cut fuel subsidies as the Syrian pound hit a record low against the US dollar. The move, coupled with rising inflation, has sparked protests across the nation, for, despite the wage increase, Syria's current economic situation is deteriorating by the day. The country's economy has been greatly impacted by its prolonged civil war of 13 years and other western sanctions.



INDIA

Chandrayaan-3 lands

The nation's third lunar exploration mission, Chandrayaan-3, on August 23, 2023, successfully made soft landing near the Moon's south pole, making India the first ever country in the world to accomplish this feat. Aimed to study vital data about the Moon's geology, surface composition, and potential resources, the mission, launched by ISRO on July 14, is a significant milestone in space exploration.



THAILAND

New PM elected

61-year-old Srettha Thavisin, a representative of the Pheu Thai Party, was elected as the nation's 30th prime minister on August 22, 2023, after winning 482 votes in a joint session of 747 MPs and senators. The formation of the PM's cabinet was approved and given royal sanction by King Maha Vajiralongkorn in a royal gazette. "I will perform my duties to the best of my ability and will work tirelessly..." the new PM declared at the party's headquarters post victory.



CHINA

Redefining academic rules

Secondary schools in the nation issued a new education guideline, referred to as the "don't look up" rule, in a bid to stop its youth from getting distracted and improve their overall academic performance. As per the new ruling, students aren't allowed to look up during class and are punished and made to stand from 8 am to 10 pm if caught doing so. The approach has garnered widespread criticism from educators across the nation.

News Flash

▶ **USA:** Two tropical storms Harold and Hilary made landfall in Texas within one week causing flash floods
 ▶ **Japan:** Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched moon mission on August 26, 2023

Feminism is the way

Dr Harshali Singh As She Traces The Path To Achieving Rights For All Women

Dr Harshali Singh, professionally deployed as a member judge at the District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, is an academician, a teacher trainer, an occupational therapist, and above all, an author with several books to her credit. Ranging from poetry to fiction, her works are replete with writings on women-centric issues including domestic violence, empowerment, and independence, making her a true-blue champion of women's causes. For her extraordinary achievement in the field, she has also been conferred with the Iconic Author Award 2022 by Aesthetics International Lifestyle magazine. As GT reporters got a chance to interview her on the occasion of Reading Mahotsav, she had a lot to divulge for the world to listen to.

Her inspiration

As a feminist, I have always felt compelled to write about women's issues. For not only has this habit aided me in raising awareness, but it has also helped me in making the voices of women heard. Even if we talk about something as empowering as a coun-



Dr Harshali Singh with GT reporters

try's political terrain, we have seen men take oaths on behalf of women, even if the latter have been elected to a particular position, showcasing how, as a woman, you are bound to face challenges no matter where you go. To rectify this, I feel that women should not underestimate their own worth and should start working towards improving the world's perception of them.

Her passion

I have never thought of writing as a chore; it's more like a passion. So, balancing writing with my professional career was never a

problem as one can always find time for things one is passionate about. In fact, I am able to write guilt-free as a result, so, if anything, it's a win-win situation. Howbeit, even after being appreciated for my work, staying humble and loyal to my roots is what I practice and preach, and will continue to do till I can hold a pen in my hand and have paper on my desk.

Her prose

In my most recent work, A Paradox Of Dreams, a visually challenged girl uses her unique perceptions to solve murders, show-

INTERVIEW

casing how physical disability isn't a weakness. And that's exactly how I want to use my prose – to empower those in need.

Her mantra

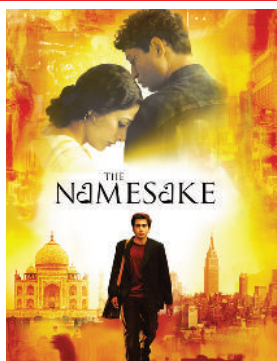
When it comes to writing and good writing at that, one must be true to one's own instincts and not just blindly follow what is in vogue. Writing on a subject matter that one is most acquainted with is advantageous, though not feasible at all times, too. One should also know how to strike the right balance between diverse writing styles to come up with intriguing write-ups. Other than this, it is important for writers to keep reading. So, if you are aspiring to become one, read not just for the sake of reading, but to also grasp the writer's perspective. [G I](#)

Interview conducted by: Jayati Jain, XI D, Angad Gautam, XI J, Devyanshi Goswami, XI E & Bulbul Verma, XI B, AIS Gur 46

Book Review

Ripping the facade

Book: The Namesake
Author: Jhumpa Lahiri
Published in: September 2003
Genre: Fiction, drama, coming of age



Synopsis: The Namesake, through the story of the Gangulis, a Bengali family based in America, examines the nuances of being caught between two conflicting cultures. The story begins with the birth of Gogol, the son of Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli, and focuses on the struggles the young parents are faced with while raising him in an alien land without familial support. The new parents also struggle to name their son but end up finalising Gogol in the honour of Nikolai Gogol, a Russian novelist. However, as Gogol progresses through life, he starts to resent his identity as a first-generation American with Bengali roots and a Russian name. The novel exposes the struggle he puts up with in order to navigate his name's significance and his place in two distinct worlds.

Why it is worth reading: Bollywood has

mostly depicted NRIs as glamorous people, barely touching on their everyday struggles, be it homesickness or their sheer incapacity to deal with the dichotomy between their motherland and the land which gives them their bread and butter. The novel as such gives a full-fledged view of the struggle of the Indian diaspora - their inability to call either of the nations their home for instance - for the modern readers to empathise with. The fact that it uses simple diction and narrative to convey that surely makes the novel an easy read for any and every reader.

Iconic quote: "That's the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet."

Rating: 4.3/5

Review by: Sudiksha Sahu
AIS Jagdishpur, IX B

Transforming education

NEP 2020 & How It Has Revolutionised The Sector

Anarghya Panwar, AIS Noida, XI I

The world around us is changing at the double; similar is the case for our knowledge and rightly so, for education would always remain fundamental in achieving the full potential. Keeping the same in mind, Indian government introduced the National Education Policy 2020, a new learning policy aimed at transforming India's academic system. Here's a quick run-through of what the policy is all about.

Holistic learning

NEP 2020 focuses on the overall development of a child and stands against rote learning. By providing quality education, it marks a transition from the 10+2 education structure to a 5+3+3+4 system, for its goal is to create a strong base for Early Childhood Care and Education and advocate holistic learning and well-being of children.

Technological integration

Technology is the world's future, therefore tech-based learning is needed to ensure decent education for all. Having developed a repository of resources made available on



SWAYAM/DIKSHA, the NEP aims to do just that. These technological interventions would not only aid teachers in imparting knowledge, but will also help them bridge any existing language barrier.

Teachers' empowerment

Teachers remain at the centre of every education system across the globe, and it is impossible to bring about any transformation in the sector without them. Hence, the NEP aims at empowering teachers by giving them the opportunity to design their own curricular and pedagogical approaches within the approved framework. [G I](#)

G to the P to the S

From the crack of dawn, technology stirs us with its reliable alarms, and caresses us with the cooling breeze of our ACs as we drift off to sleep, weaving its wonders into our everyday lives. GT pays homage to this silent saviour that simplifies and enhances our existence with a brand new series, unwrapping A to Z of iconic tech pieces, one letter at a time. Here's presenting the **G** in this series that changed human life as we know and live it.

Sejal Suri, AIS Vasundhara 1, IX E

The tech: Global Positioning System
The inventor: Roger Lee Easton, Ivan Alexander Getting & Bradford Parkinson

How was it invented?

The need for Global Positioning System (GPS) arose from the growing demand for accurate global positioning and navigation, howbeit, its idea is grounded on LORAN

and Decca Navigation System, which were used during WWII to navigate ships and planes at a long range. As for its ultimate invention, it took place in the 1970s through the collaborative efforts of American scientists and engineers, along with the US Department of Defence. Electrical engineer Ivan Getting advocated for satellite-based navigation and physicist Roger Easton's team at the US Naval Research Laboratory developed the technology along with inventor Bradford Parkinson, who was the lead project manager for the development and implementation of the GPS. Primarily developed for military usage, such as precise troop and weapon movements, the system was refined over time, leading to the launch of GPS satellites and ground infrastructure.

When did we get to know it first?

The public became aware of GPS in the early 1980s when a Korean Airlines flight entered the prohibited Soviet airspace and got shot, killing all 269 onboard. This is when Ronald Reagan, the president of USA at that time, in a bid to enhance the nation's safety and navigation capabilities, passed an executive order to make GPS available to civilians. High quality GPS sig-

nals, however, were still only used by military until May 1, 2000.

Why do we use it?

GPS is extensively used in cars, trucks, ships, and aircraft for tracking, route optimisation, and fleet management, resulting in improved safety and efficiency. With its ability to find exact location and plan routes, it also aids hikers and adventurers in navigating unfamiliar terrain and ensuring safety. Industries such as telecommunications, finance, science, and research make use of it for its accurate timing information. Its precision in tracking distance, speed, and routes during exercise

Fun fact: Solar storms are a regular threat to the satellites that make Global Positioning System possible.

makes it a good tool for recreational activities like geocaching and fitness as well.

How has it helped our lives?

GPS has revolutionised positioning and navigation by improving efficiency, safety, and comfort in our day-to-day life. Its real-time directions enable us to travel with ease, helping us save time and reduce stress. GPS-based apps also help us find nearby businesses, restaurants, and services at the drop of a hat, increasing convenience and accessibility. Some GPS tracking devices enhance personal and asset security, allowing us to monitor the whereabouts of our loved ones and valuable possessions. It has also proven to be a boon for the emergency responders by enabling them to quickly locate and reach those in need of assistance, improving their response time and helping them save more lives. **GT**



The satellite story

Floating In And Around Space - From Sputnik To Starlink

Maira Shadab, AIS Vas 6, IX A

The world as we know it changed forever on October 4, 1957, when the Soviet Union launched mankind's very first artificial satellite, Sputnik 1, into earth's orbit. Ever since, we've been launching new satellites into space whenever we can. Howbeit, this begs the question of what satellites exactly are and what they can do. Read on to get the answers...

What's a satellite?

A satellite, as per NASA, is an astronomical body/object, either man-made or natural, that orbits around another body in space. While natural satellites, as the name suggests, occur naturally, man-made satellites are created by humans and launched into space for different purposes, like tak-

ing pictures of the objects in space, searching for black holes, distant galaxies, navigation, meteorology, broadcasting and communications, etc. The Moon is an example of a natural satellite; the Hubble Space Telescope and the International Space Station are two specimens of the latter.

How did humans enter the picture?

USSR established the space-age on Earth in the late 1950s when it launched Sputnik 1 - a tiny 58 cm aluminium ball that weighed only 83.6 kg, with four long antennas and transmitters. Tasked with orbiting the Earth for 22 days, the satellite spent close to 3 months in space, completing 1440 orbits of the Earth. This unexpected triumph sparked a race for space around the world and spurred the creation of several space launches, including a human spaceflight to the moon in 1969.

A boon or a bane?

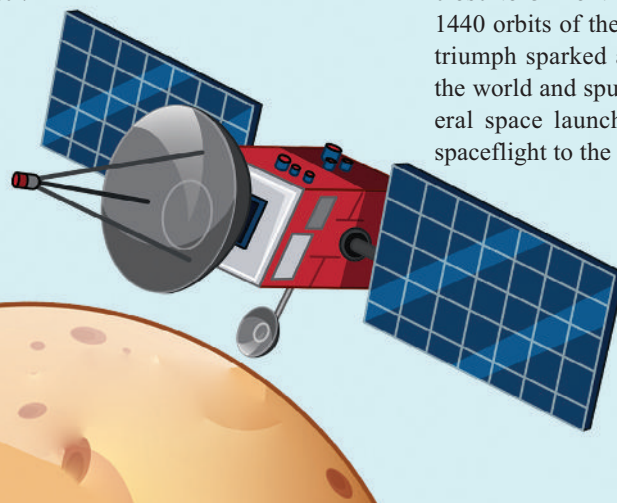
Satellites have undoubtedly made life easier for us in many ways, with navigation being at the forefront. Our ability to indulge in day-to-day financial transactions, too, is all

Do you know?

- 1 What was the name of India's first satellite and when was it launched?
- 2 Name the first living creature that was launched in space with Sputnik 2?
- 3 What is the speed of the satellites travelling in the low-Earth orbit?
- 4 How many satellites are roughly orbiting the Earth currently?
- 5 What regulates a satellite's movement once it has been sent into orbit?

Answers: 1. Aryabhata; April 19, 1975 2. Laika
3. 17,500 miles per hour 4. Between 3000 and 6500
5. Gravity

thanks to them. Howbeit, despite being great technological achievements, satellites are expensive to develop and repair, with the upkeep of transponders alone costing hundreds of thousands of dollars. Furthermore, they contribute significantly to the issue of space debris. Apparently, there are about 20,000 known bits of space junk orbiting the Earth at present, making them a potential danger to the lower orbital atmosphere as well as our upcoming space missions. So, while creative we can be, exercising caution is a must!



Inspiring work environment



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Amity's ecosystem nurtures not only outstanding learners but also dynamic educators. Our HR & Training department, therefore, strives to create a collaborative and inspiring work environment which helps teachers and other staff members achieve their full potential and, in turn, they are able to contribute meaningfully to the overall well-being of students. From organising teachers' training programs and equipping them with latest changes in curriculum to enhancing new pedagogical skills based on recommendations of NEP 2020, NCF 2023 and CBSE – the HR & Training department does it all. The department has also been instrumental in organising webinars on crucial topics like mental health, Vedic Maths, cyber security etc. In addition, it conducts safety audits - via the discipline committee, child abuse monitoring committee, school safety committee etc - to ensure an amiable and positive environment conducive to optimum learning. It impartially addresses employees' grievances, which in turn, fosters an equitable workplace. HRMS (Human Resource Management System) and online cumulative student assessment report (student dossier) ensures transparency for all, and online module APAR (Annual Performance Appraisal Report) makes Amity the first school to have online appraisals for educators.

It's Time To Say Hip Hip Hurray!
This time the glory comes from the field of sports. Eklavya Jagal a student of Class XI, AIS Noida, has won three gold medals in 500 meters, 1000 meters and 1500 meters skating races at the Indonesia National Open Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2023. 🏆🇮🇳

Red hot rants



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Hi, there, I am Timmy the tomato, and my soaring prices have made you see red. These days I find myself practically everywhere – in coffee table discussions, kitchen conversations and office gossip. I am everywhere except where I should be – in your fridge. Yes, I am loving all the attention, for I am now being called 'red gold'. But, wait, is it really worth the hype? Well, doesn't seem so. I see everyone complaining about how much I have changed and

how unaffordable I have become. Really? Is it my fault or is it yours? Am I to be blamed for untimely rains that have destroyed my entire family? Am I the one who asked you to stop growing me in your backyard the way you used to? You are the one who walked away from me – no more time, no more gardens, and no more space. I now grow in farms, then stored in cold storage, and have to travel long distances to come to your table. Do you see the whole supply chain here that adds up to the cost and the real reason I have become so pricey? Had I been still growing in your garden, had I not become yet another victim of climate change, had I not fallen prey to market forces, I would still be doing salsa with your salad.

Perhaps it's time to bring me back to your own backyard. Make me the celebrity of your garden, not the news headlines. I love it when you talk about my recipes more than my price. Make me the gold of your garden again! 🍅🇮🇳

Ecoing the cries

To The Pay Gap That Defined Gender Economics

Venuka Rison Joseph
AGS Gurugram, XII

Dear Salary,

I love you. I really do. Now, I know you are the Shah Rukh Khan of the world of finance, but don't brush this off as just another fangirling moment, for I wish to give you a piece of my heart, and also my mind.

I can rave endlessly about how you make me feel when it is time for our monthly economic meetings. That notification signalling your arrival makes me almost jump with joy. It was during one of these moments that my eyes unintentionally happen to fall on a similar notification received by a male co-worker. Angry is perhaps an understatement of how I felt when I realised how partial you had been to him. I mean we had the same skill set, same role and responsibilities, and even the same designation; yet you choosing to plunge into his pockets deeper was a fact I could not wrap my brain around. I had been betrayed.



And then as I dug deeper, I realised that you had betrayed the likes of me for far too long. Apparently, they had even coined a term for it – 'gender pay gap'. I googled this betrayal and here's what I found – South Korea's wage gap stood at 33.59%; Russia's at 24.4%; Switzerland's at 17.3% and so on. Even in the world's most powerful country, US, female-dominated occupations occupied the lowest minimum wage, that is to say that almost 67% of the workers in the nation earned the minimum wage.

It might just get better at the top, I

consoled myself with the thought. Only to find my deck of cards tumbling down as a senior quashed the myth. "Only 8% of CEOs of Fortune 500 companies stand to be women," she told me. "But it is getting better. The wage gap in UK has gone down from almost 50% in 1970 to 17% in 2016 and from 42% to 25% in Japan." I heaved a sigh of relief, but the anger in me refused to die down. Sure, things

might be looking up, but truths like annual unpaid labour performed by women being around 63% of India's GDP is too hard to ignore. How stupid was I to believe that your love for me was fair and genuine, and that you were well compensating me for my hardwork. Sometimes I even wonder if I am fighting a losing battle, because my kind fought tooth and nail to enter the workplace and now when we have, looks like we need to fight again for an equal space.

With utmost sincerity,
A woman

The fashion follies

...continued from page 1

The trend: Is plastic fantastic?

The fall: Plastic, previously thought of as a cheap throwaway material, has now made a prominent mark in the world of fashion with see-through purses, high heel boots, and transparent clothes filling up your shelves like there's no tomorrow. The year 2023, for one, has seen designers flood the market with PVC totes. As for the see-through footwears, they started entering the market around 2015, but it was only with Kanye's launch of thigh-high, lucite-heeled PVC boots for Yeezy that things reached a fever pitch. Well, thanks, but no thanks, for the goal may have been to achieve an edgy, futuristic aesthetic, these pieces frequently end up looking ridiculous, all at the expense of the environment.

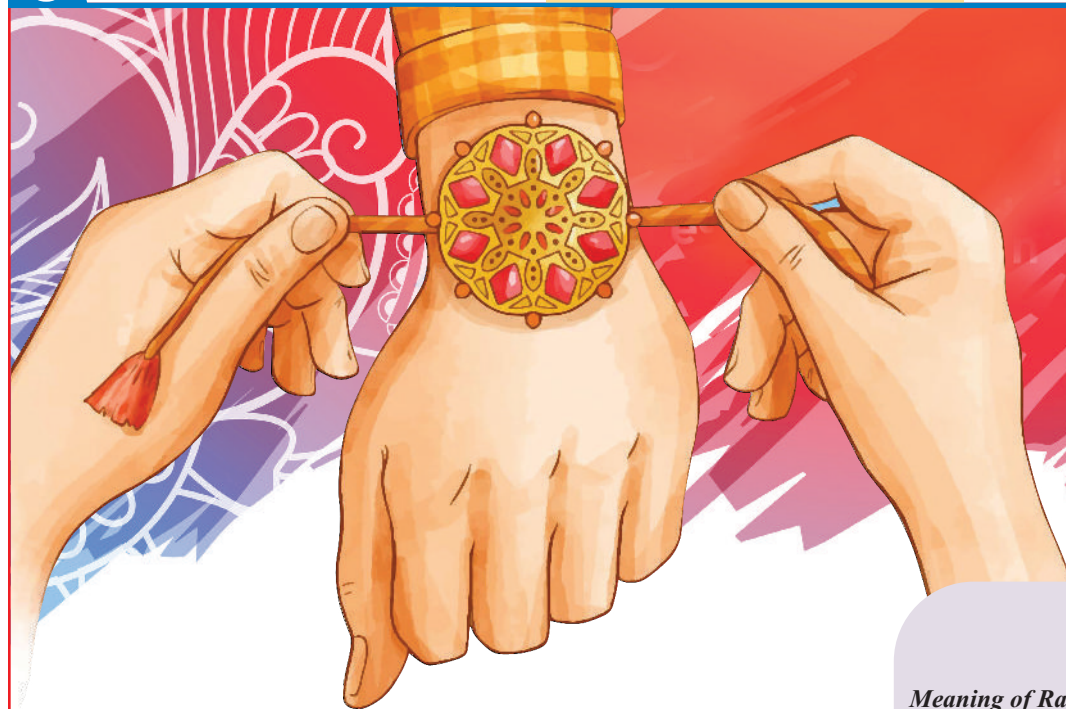
Statistically speaking, these strands of plastic that make up our clothing have already unleashed an estimated 1.4 million trillion plastic fibres in the ocean. As consumers, thus, we need to know better. For while the line between harming the environment and fashion might be thin, it still is a very important one.

The trend: Let's exorcise

The fall: In the domain of fashion, headgears have always been a must, but now it seems like the designers are trying to make the funniest ones possible. Similar is the case with footwear; from being covered in feathers to accessories that look like fruit baskets, these get decorated in a manner that may draw attention but also looks questionable. Designers did previously state that they use out-

rageous accessories to make their look stand out, but does it work? WWE wrestler Bianca Belair's headpiece at Kentucky Derby 2022 made her look like a walking bouquet; artistic? We doubt! 'Honourable' mention to the meat-inspired shoes and the McQueen Armadillo boots worn by Lady Gaga. They definitely were the talk of the town! Now, you might say that fashion, at times, is designed to be light-hearted and amusing, but do know that there comes a time when it collapses due to overconfidence. Just saying!

The world of fashion is a place where creativity knows no bounds, but when some trends test the limits of reason, we cannot help but wonder – how far is too far when it comes to innovation in fashion?



Happy Raksha Bandhan!

From the archives

Significant Moments Documented In Annals Of Raksha Bandhan

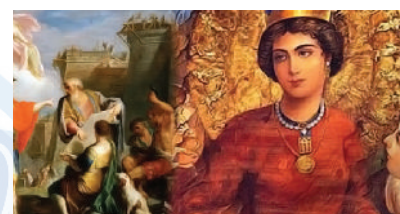
Arpita Mishra, XI A & Devina Singh, IX B, AIS Jagdishpur

rakhi and kept his promise; instead of killing the surrendered enemy, he let Alexander live.

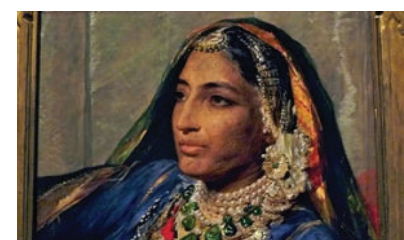


Queen Karnavati & Humayun:

When Sultan of Gujarat, Bahadur Shah, unveiled his plans to invade Chittor, Queen Karnavati, widowed queen of the king of Chittor, sent a rakhi to Mughal Emperor Humayun, urging him to protect her. Upon receiving it, he immediately set off with his troops to carry out his brotherly duty. However, by the time he reached, Chittor had already fallen, and the Queen had immolated herself in the Rajput custom of Jauhar. Humayun then reclaimed Chittor and handed it over to her son, Vikramaditya, thus, fulfilling his promise.

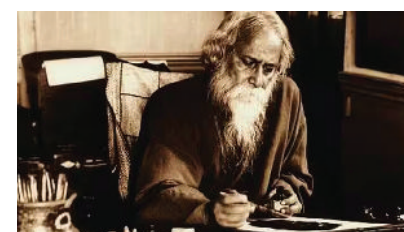


Roxana & King Porus: Alexander the Great arrived in the Indian subcontinent with an unbridled desire to own the entire world. When the Battle of the Hydaspes commenced between him and the Hindu king, Porus, Roxana, his wife sent a sacred thread to Porus, requesting him not to harm her husband in battle. Porus graciously accepted her



Maharani Jindan & the King of Nepal:

Maharani Jindan, wife of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, founder of the Sikh Empire, was very fond of celebrating Raksha Bandhan. Once, she sent a rakhi to the King of Nepal, who cordially accepted her as his own sister, further strengthening relations between the two territories. When the Sikh Empire collapsed eventually, he honoured his vow to protect her and gave her refuge in Nepal.

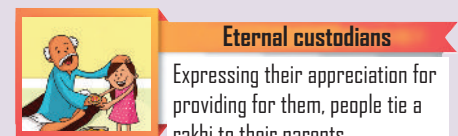


Rabindranath Tagore & the 1905 Bengal Partition:

In a bid to maintain peace and harmony during the partition of Bengal in 1905, Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel laureate poet and freedom fighter, asked Hindus and Muslims to tie rakhi to each other, using the festival of Raksha Bandhan as an instrument to spread nationalist spirit among people.

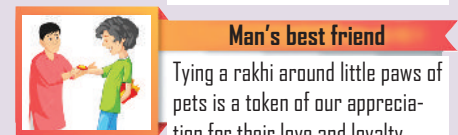
Not your average rakhi

Meaning of Raksha Bandhan has evolved to include a larger range of relations in the modern world. Going beyond conventional brother-sister bond, people now tie rakhis to entities, both living and otherwise, who have profound meaning in their life. Read on as Shaista Bano, AIS Jagdishpur, IX B, takes you through the who and why of it all...



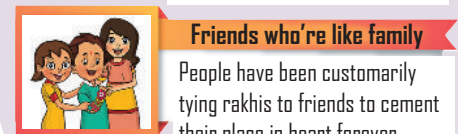
Eternal custodians

Expressing their appreciation for providing for them, people tie a rakhi to their parents.



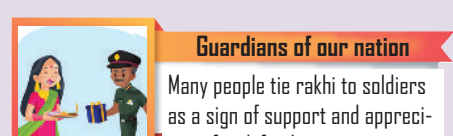
Man's best friend

Tying a rakhi around little paws of pets is a token of our appreciation for their love and loyalty.



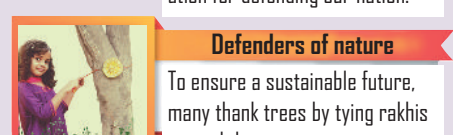
Friends who're like family

People have been customarily tying rakhis to friends to cement their place in heart forever.



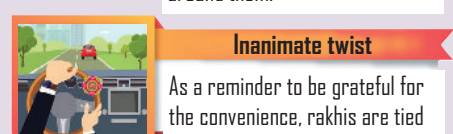
Guardians of our nation

Many people tie rakhi to soldiers as a sign of support and appreciation for defending our nation.



Defenders of nature

To ensure a sustainable future, many thank trees by tying rakhis around them.



Inanimate twist

As a reminder to be grateful for the convenience, rakhis are tied to doorknobs, car handles, etc.

Hymns to the bond of love

Adima Agarwal, XI A & Ananya Agrawal, IX B, AIS Jagdishpur

Song: Mere Bhaiya Mere Chanda

Singer: Asha Bhosle
Movie: Kajal (1965)

Key lyrics:

"Mere bhaiya mere chanda, mere annol ratan
Tere badle mai zamane ki, koi cheez na loon"

Song: Rang Birangi Rakhee Lekar

Singer: Lata Mangeshkar
Movie: Anpadh (1962)

Key lyrics:

"Main na chaandi, na sone ke haar maangu
Apne bhaiya ka thoda sa pyaar maangu"

Song: Rakhi Dhagon Ka Tyohar

Singer: Mohammed Rafi
Movie: Rakhi (1962)

Key Lyrics:

"Rakhi dhagon ka tyohar
Aaya re aaya bhaiyon ka tyohar"

Scan the codes and add the songs to create your own Raksha Bandhan special playlist.



Song: Yeh Rakhi Bandhan Hai Aisa

Singers: Mukesh and Lata Mangeshkar
Movie: Be-Imaan (1972)

Key lyrics:

"Jaise subhadra aur kishan ka
Jaise badri aur pawan ka"

Song: Behna Ne Bhai Ki Kalai Se

Singer: Suman Kalyanpur
Movie: Resham ki dori (1974)

Key Lyrics:

"Mera phool hai tu, talvaar hai tu
Meri laaj ka pehredaar hai tu
Main akeli kahaan iss duniya mein
Mera saara sansar hai tu"

#Rakhified



Urooz, XI A & Sudiksha Sahu, IX B, AIS Jagdishpur

- The word "Raksha" first appeared in the Hindu classic 'Uttara Parva' of the Bhavishya Purana in chapter 137.
- A gifting company called IGP set the Guinness World Record in 2013 for forming the longest chain of bracelets to create a rakhi. The chain was 1,46,486 feet long and made out of 1,25,560 bracelets to be precise.
- One of the most expensive diamond studded rakhis was sold at a whopping 5 lakh INR in Surat in 2022.
- The Indian Postal department introduced unique 11 cm x 22cm rakhi envelopes in 2020. These come in eye-catching designs and cost about 15 INR each.
- A woman by the name of Archana Srivastava holds the Guinness World Record for amassing more than 2400 different types of rakhis.
- On the day of Raksha Bandhan, the Koli community in Maharashtra celebrates Narali Pournima (coconut day festival) and offers coconuts to the sea god Varuna.
- 'Rakhi Purnima' in Nepal, 'Rakhri' in Punjab, and 'Saluno' in western parts of India are just a few names used to commemorate Raksha Bandhan.
- The most rakhis ever distributed by a single person was 16,128. This record was set by Poonam Rajesh Pawar of Nanded, Maharashtra.
- Around 50 million rakhis, estimated to cost roughly 6,000 crore INR, are sold each year.

Wall of fame

Anupriya Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XI



Kids tie rakhi to PM Narendra Modi, conveying their emotions



Politician Mamta Banerjee ties a rakhi to Shah Rukh Khan

Raksha sutras galore!

Celebrating the bond of siblinghood, rakhis, today, come in sundry styles. Here's Priya Ravindra Shukla, AIS Jagdishpur, XI B, with a few of them for you to choose from this Raksha Bandhan...



Traditional rakhi: Made of a simple and fragile cotton 'thread', 'dori', 'dhaga', 'mouli' or 'kalawa', this rakhi is often referred to as a raksha sutra. These strings of love can also be made using raw materials like zari, nylon, silk threads

decked with glass beads, plastic beads, colourful stones, metal pendants, rudraksha et al.



Bluetooth rakhi: Adorned with tech-enabled functions on a tie-able bracelet, bluetooth rakhis come with instructions that guide the users to pair them with a bluetooth-equipped smartphone. So, every time a brother goes a certain distance far from his sister with this rakhi on his wrist, it plays a message reminding him that he is supposed to be around his sister and protect her.



Seed rakhi: Eco-friendly in nature, this rakhi is embedded with seeds from flowering plants that can be planted at home. When you take it off your wrist, you can place the entire thing in a pot and water it like you



Pouch rakhi: Available in a variety of cartoon faces and emojis, these rakhis are designed to have a pouch of sorts on top. These have recently gained popularity amongst kids below the age of 10 years.



Luxurious rakhi: For those who want an extra bling on their wrist this festive season, bejeweled rakhis are a great option. Usually studded with diamonds set in gold, they are preferred by rich Indian families in India and abroad.



Symbolic rakhi: These are custom-made rakhis that can be made using any spiritual sign, symbol, emblem, or a depiction of any God or Goddess as per an individual's requirements. A Buddha face rakhi, swastika rakhi, blue evil eye rakhi - all fall under this category. Some sort of auspicious meaning is usually attached to these rakhis.

The tie challenge

Anukalp Shukla, AIS Jagdishpur, XI A

Put your favourite quizmaster outfit on and challenge your sibling to find out who knows who best!

- What is your sibling's all-time favourite movie?
- Can you recall a fun childhood memory that only you and your sibling share?
- What's your sibling's go-to comfort food?
- Without looking, what was the last gift your

sibling gave you?

- Name a place your sibling would love to travel to.
- What's a hobby or interest your sibling has that not many people know about?
- Share an embarrassing story about your sibling.
- What's the one thing your sibling can't live without, aside from their phone?
- What is your sibling's biggest fear?
- Is there a specific nickname or term of endearment you have for each other? What is it?



Perilous premonition

Storywala

Swati Negi, GT Network

Kathy woke up with a spine-breaking jolt that night. It might have resulted from the thunderstorm that was continuously raging, but mostly because she was repeatedly haunted by a nightmare. While she took pride in her ability to dream so vividly, every other night she would suddenly wake up, walk up to the kitchen, pour herself a glass of cold water, and gulp it down in an instant. But it was the next step that truly calmed her down without fail. So, like clockwork, she picked up the phone and speed-dialled. Dialling Klaus, it read.

Ever since they were kids, Klaus had been her biggest supporter and her biggest bully. Kathy would complain, but she knew he would move mountains for her, if need be. Aren't all siblings similar? Being twins didn't help their case either. Kathy would often reminisce about their humble beginnings. Their favourite chore at their countryside home was to go orange picking. They would slurp

“Klaus had been her companion and confidant since forever. From teething to graduation, they did everything together.”

freshly squeezed orange juice as the house filled with the delightful aroma of pancakes. Their father, Tim, was the best cook. Patricia, their mother, loved cooking, but Tim had a passion that was beyond belief. He could name all types of cheeses in under forty seconds, however, he couldn't differentiate a Phillips head screwdriver from a flathead. That was more of their mother's territory. “Even your children can tell them apart,” she'd say. Kathy and Klaus would happily demonstrate. Maybe that was where they picked up the healthy, albeit dragged, bickering.

Klaus had been her companion and confidant since forever. From teething to graduation, they did everything together. Heartbreaks, burnouts, promotions... you name it! This nightmare, though, had been bothering her for weeks. Like every over-sharing sister, she narrated it in detail to Klaus each time. Like every caring brother, he

listened and lightened her mood. “It's just a nightmare, silly. We have a lifetime together. I am yet to see you ugly cry at your wedding.” Yes, that was his go-to joke. “Ha-ha. How original!”, she would exclaim. They would sleep peacefully after that customary phone call. That night, she sat across the kitchen, staring at the oranges on the shelf, waiting for Klaus to answer. To her surprise, it went straight to voicemail. On the fourth attempt, Klaus answered. His voice trembling as if he was in pain. She knew. “Kathy, I'm sorry. I tried my best to not let your nightmare turn into reality but it seems like my demons won this time.”



WORDS VERSE

The snake



Hrishit Sinha, AIS Noida, XII

Caution, brother, it is here, it comes
Either to catch its prey or to be one
Kindly move away, for few it pardons
Just take the hint, don't be noisome

Nature's beauty and terror combined
Pray that it never spots your weapon
It doesn't even leave bones behind
I simply warn you, learn your lesson

Boon or bane, it's totally up to you
Let it live or else face nature's wrath
Trust me, you don't have a single clue
Save your life; go take the unerring path

Ah, dear reader, welcome and behold
It's our friend snake, out to get food
Many fell before it, as stories are told
Let it live in peace and all will be good

Don't ever try to play the blame game
For our mother nature knows it all
Stop! Don't put yourself to shame
Be kind and caring, or you will fall.

Read Play and Win 30

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to editor@theglobaltimes.in or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



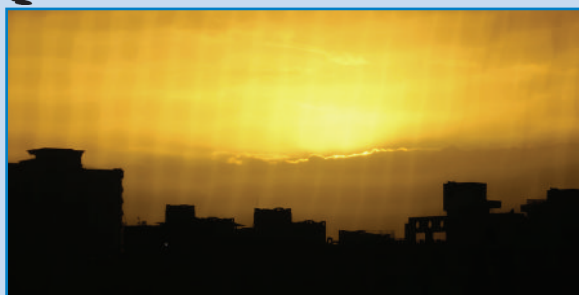
Q.1 Who is the author of the book 'The Namesake'?	Q.2 Name the headline of the article written by Riddhi Rastogi.	Q.3 Mention the inventors of Global Positioning System.
Q.4 Which cave holds the Guinness World Record for being the largest cave globally?	Q.5 On which page can you find articles related to Raksha Bandhan?	Q.6 The recipe 'Rusk Malai' has been cooked by _____.
Q.7 What was the theme of the panel discussion conducted by AIS VKC Lucknow?	Q.8 The students of Amitasha participated in the programme _____	Q.9 Name the three fashion trends mentioned on page 1.

Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

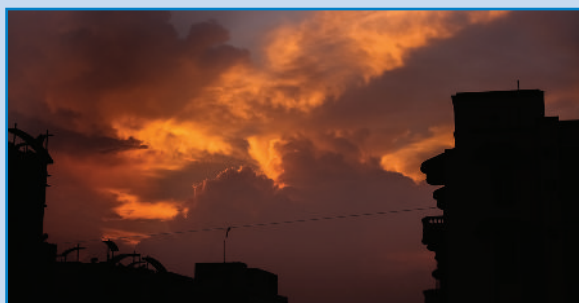
Results of Read Play & Win-29: Ayesha Khan, AIS Gur 43, IX B; Khushi Bisht, AIS Vas 1, XII D; Ananya Sagal, AIS Saket, VIII A

CAMERA CAPERS

Anvay Arora, AIS Vasundhara 1, Alumnus



A glorious sunrise!



Hues of the skies!

Send in your entries to cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in

A labyrinth

Yusra Raihan, AGS Gur, Alumna

She was a labyrinth of unsaid words
Drowned in her deluge of emotions
Lost on the boulevard of broken dreams
She walked a lone path leading home

There she was, wrapped in her quilt
Drowning in a tornado of thoughts
Each night she delved deeper still
Only to introspect chapters of past

There had to be a way out of all this
She had to get up and fight this storm
After all, it was only a harsh cacophony
Of thoughts that were ruling her mind.

The valiant duo



Short story| Part I

Avika Agarwal, AIS Vas 6, VIII

It was Asha and Ashley's first day at school and they were excited to start afresh. But, as they entered their classroom, both had a rather peculiar encounter with their class teacher. Where Ashley got scolded for being late, Asha was yelled at for being too intrusive when all she did was ask Miss Strickler the cause of her unsettled **demeanour**. Letting things slide, they tried to spend the rest of their day well. Little did they know, they had a lot coming up. It began with Ashley's foot getting stuck in a pile of rocks at the playground. Though Asha quickly came to her aid, she noticed a small opening in the ground beneath. As they bent forward to get a better look, the two fell into a tunnel that led to an underground

cave and to their surprise, they saw Miss Strickler standing there, talking to her twin. Curious, the two tiptoed towards the busy twins. "Our newly acquired human form would help us capture these little kids, but we must be careful," said one. Aghast at what they just heard, the sisters turned around to flee and inform the rest, but their troubles didn't seem to take a backseat. Ashley's foot tripped on two small bags with A & A imprinted on them. The sisters picked up one bag each to see what's inside. Asha found a key, a feather, and a piece of paper while, Ashley found a small coin and a map along with a similar piece of paper and key. The map had the following written on it...
*"The two greats will come back
 Or the bad will attack
 The Akiridions shall live in peace*

Aghast at what they just heard, the sisters turned around to flee and inform the rest, but their troubles didn't seem to take a backseat.

*Else the population will decrease
 Thou will find an orange wall
 It shall have a drawn snake
 The pull of two will do
 Lock them up and let them sue!"*
 As the two finished reading the incantation, they turned around to see the terrifying twins plotting something, only this time the orange wall with a snake sketch that separated them became more noticeable. "So, this key should fit," said Asha, taking out a key from her bag. "And this one here," said Ashley taking out the other key. As they unlocked the wall, they saw a lever, which Asha quickly pulled. It didn't budge though. At this, Ashley read the incantation again, and said, "I think we both need to pull it." And so they did. The terrifying twins got locked up in a cage. "Have fun locked up in there," Asha said grinning, as the duo walked back to their house. 🇮🇳

To be continued...

A new word: Demeanour
Meaning: A person's outward behaviour or bearing.

Riddle Fiddle

Akshita Saroj
 AIS VYC Lko, VI B

1. What gets wet while trying to dry?
2. What has lots of eyes, but can't see?
3. What is black when it's clean and white when it becomes dirty?
4. What has many teeth, but cannot bite?
5. What has a head and a tail but no body?
6. What has a horn, but does not make any noise?

Answers: 1. Towel 2. Potato 3. Blackboard 4. Comb 5. Coin 6. Rhinoceros



Rusk malai

Mahi Arora with her dish

Mahi Arora, AIS PV, VI A

Ingredients

- Powdered sugar.....2 tsp
- Rusk.....5 pieces
- Milk½ cup
- Fresh malai½ cup
- Cardamom powder.....½ tsp
- Dry fruits.....for garnish



Procedure

- Take milk in a bowl and add powdered sugar to it. Mix well.
- Now, take a rusk and soak it in the sweetened milk. Once done, transfer the soaked rusk into a flat dish. Repeat the same with the remaining four rusks.
- Evenly spread some fresh malai on the rusks and garnish them by sprinkling some cardamom powder and crushed dry fruits on them.
- Refrigerate the rusks for about 15 minutes.
- Your delicious rusk malai is now ready!

POEM

The moon

Twisha Pandey, AIS Saket, VII E

Silver ball glowing brightly in the sky
 Enchanting sight for those passing by
 When the day ends and night begins
 The moon, along with stars, comes in

The celestial body in night outshines
 All the other stars in the sky just fine
 It is like someone singing a lullaby
 To all the people who come nearby

Mesmerising for people who observe
 Nature's beauty and what it serves
 Faces glow like the flowers bloom
 As they look at the wonderful moon. 🇮🇳

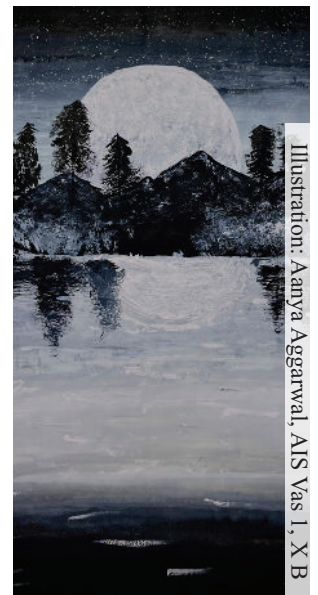


Illustration: Anya Aggarwal, AIS Vas 1, X B

It's Me

KNOW ME

My name: Riddhiman Pratap Singh
My Class: V A
My school: AIS VKC Lucknow
My birthday: July 21



MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: Prachi ma'am
Subject: Mathematics
Friend: Tejas
Game: Football
Cartoon: Doraemon
Food: Choley Bhature
Mall: Crown Mall
Book: Pinocchio

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

Hobby: Drawing
I like: Loving my mother
I dislike: Fighting with my brother
I want to become: A police officer
I want to feature in GT because: I am unique and adorable

The art of letting go

'The More The Merrier' Is Just A Façade, Reverse It With 'The Fewer The Better' Card

Youth Power is an annual social leadership programme organised by The Global Times, where different teams from Amity schools engage in varied social causes in several stages. One of them is 'Panel Discussion' where experts from different walks of life discuss several aspects of the chosen social cause. Here's presenting **Part VIII** of this exclusive series, based on the panel discussions organised by YP teams in 2021-22, and a host of opinions as experts debate on 'Physical Decluttering', the cause chosen by the Youth Power team of AIS VKC Lucknow.



Ease into the act of decluttering

Panellist: Snigdha Mishra
Psychologist, mental health educator, and Founder, LifeSurfers Wellness Foundation

"Almost everyone hoards something or the other, even stuff that may not even be of any significance or use to them. This is because, over time, we end up developing an emotional bond with everything we buy - be it old clothes, toys, photographs, furniture, or even gadgets. So, when it's time to part with them, it doesn't happen without inducing stress and anxiety. This

kind of hoarding may create a lot of clutter in our house, but is not necessarily considered a clinical disorder. Often times people hoard because they really don't know whom to give away these things to or they feel that these purchases were expensive and don't want to drop them. However, learning to let go is a very important skill. The trick is to do it gradually; start with things that are of the least importance to you, and work on improving your tolerance for the anxiety that comes with letting them go. It's like

developing the willpower muscle - the more you use it, the more you will learn. Also, make a monthly or quarterly plan of what you can discard. There are many organisations that can assist you to declutter. Thinking of those needy and destitute people who can benefit from what you give away will also help a lot in decluttering. In fact, give away the good stuff or stuff that's still as fresh as it gets, not just the things that are totally unusable.

Equally important is to break the incessant loop of buying and hoarding; it will help you save so much money! However, it is also important to keep in mind



that we all define clutter differently, and as long as it is just a personal habit and not a mental health issue, we shouldn't judge anyone who's indulged in hoarding."



Part VIII

Expert Speak

Take the donation route

Panellist: Pakhi Bansal
Founder, Salads By Pakhi and a homemaker

"Like so many other people, I, too, love to hoard clothes, even if I do not fit in them any longer. I feel that I have spent so much time and energy researching on what garbs to buy, and some of these are so expensive, that I just do not have the heart to give them away so easily. At the same

time, I feel that one also hoards a lot of thoughts and memories in one's head. I, for example, hoard a lot of memories of my arguments with my family and friends in my mind. And it was during the pandemic that I began to understand the concept of decluttering and its actual significance in one's life. Personally speaking, COVID-19 made me realise that the only way to go forward in life is by decluttering both - the material items in front

of me and those in my head. And so, I definitely do feel upset when I see the things that I used to hoard. During the pandemic, for instance, I hoarded medicines, food items, and so many other things. It was only later that I realised I did not need to do any of this at all. In fact, I felt really bad when I saw long queues of people waiting to get their hands on the stuff I already had and hoarded. That is when I decided that I am never going to make the same mistake again. I would rather buy stuff and give it to those in



need. For, in order to declutter, donation is the only route."

Let's declutter!

1 Empty the space

Firstly, clear out the room completely and then group similar items together.



2 Sort into piles

Sort the items into three piles - keep, donate and trash.



3 Give away

Give away the 'donate' pile and throw/recycle the 'trash' pile.



4 Rebuild

Spruce up your room with items from the 'keep' pile and enjoy a decluttered room!



Flying dreams

Amitasha Celebrates 77th Independence Day



Chairperson and Amitasha students celebrate the spirit of freedom



Flying dreams



Song of patriotism

Amitasha

Approximately 250 students from different branches of Amitasha participated in 'Azadi Ki Umang - Amitasha Ke Sang', an event organised to earmark 77th Independence Day celebrations on August 16, 2023 at AIS Saket. The event entailed various activities including 'Amitasha ki udaan', a kite flying activity; 'Green Freedom', wherein students planted saplings symbolising their commitment towards making the

planet greener and patriotic song competition that saw Amitasha Saket lift the winners' trophy. A video titled 'Amitasha: Ek Udaan' showcasing the journey of Amitasha was also presented during the event.

The event was graced by chief guest Santosh Kumar, (IFS) chief vigilance officer, NHPC, who appreciated Amitasha's efforts towards nurturing dreams of the girl child. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, in her address,

motivated the students to work hard and follow the principles of BHAAG in life.

As the event drew to a close, Amitasha alumnae, Diksha Gupta and Akanksha Kumari (Batch of 2023), currently pursuing graduation at AUUP, expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Chairperson Ma'am for giving them Amitasha, a platform for education and empowerment of less privileged girl child, and AUUP for supporting them with scholarship to pursue their dreams. [G I](#)



Amitians interact with Malika

Media talk

AIS Vasundhara 6

The Global Times editorial board members from Class IX interacted with Malika Malhotra, anchor, Zee News, on August 5, 2023, to understand the career opportunities and challenges of the field of journalism. During an hour-long discussion, she spoke about her education, school days, and how it shaped her present. She also highlighted the career opportunities, scope, and future of media, and advised the students to focus on their studies and follow their passion. The students presented her with a copy of The Global Times, which she lauded heartily as a brilliant initiative to train budding journalists. [G I](#)

Amity utsav

AIS Vasundhara 1

The school organised the fifth Amity Utsav, an inter-school co-curricular fest, from August 3-4, 2023. Approximately 1300 students from more than 60 schools of Delhi-NCR participated in the two-day mega event which was a delightful potpourri of creative competitions like Indradhanush, Story Weaver, Nimble Feet, Talking Titans, Shlokavali, Mathsmith,

Quiztopher, Young Innovators, Poster Mania, Light Camera Action, and Bout To Knock.

Students from Amity proved their mettle with AIS Noida and AIS Vasundhara 6 winning the first and second prize respectively in Mathsmith. AIS Gurugram 43 and AGS Noida won the first and second prize in Shlokavali.

In Bout to Knock (for), AIS MV bagged the third prize and AIS PV got the consolation whereas AIS Vas 1, AIS PV, and AIS MV



Amity Utsav in action at AIS Vasundhara 1

bagged the first, second, and third prize against the motion. In Street Play, AIS Vas 1 clinched the first prize and AIS Gwalior bagged the

special mention. The host school also won the first prize in Storymania, and second prize in Nimble Feet and Postermania. [G I](#)



Eklavya Jagal skates to the top

Skating to the golden glory

AIS Noida

Eklavya Jagal of Class XI clinched three gold medals (500 meters, 1000 meters, and 1500 meters) in skating races at the Indonesia Na-

tional Open Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2023, organised by Federasi Ice Skating Federation, Indonesia, from August 9-10, 2023. He won in the category Junior B (under 15-17), beating the players from nations

like Canada, South Korea, and Indonesia. Having won Gold at this championship recognised by International Skating Union, Eklavya will now be participating in Asian Short Track Championship in September.



Middle school teachers attend the first ever Amicreatica

Amicreatica

AIS Noida

The school organised a pilot session of Amicreatica - A series of creative writing workshops on July 28, 2023, in hybrid mode. The workshop envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, aimed at empowering the middle school teachers with effective guidance and practical teaching strategies to hone creative writing skills of students. 27 educators from different branches of Amity Group of Schools participated in the inter-

active conclave conducted by Debjani Das, PGT, AIS Saket and Sneha Prakash, PGT, AIS Pushp Vihar.

The workshop trained teachers on how to get students started on their first creative writing portfolio. The module entailed asking students to write a story on a given topic and improvising it over a period of time with the teacher's feedback. They also discussed graded planning, character description by integrating art, setting description using picture prompts, and using different words for one expression through activities.

WhatsApping?

Riddhi Rastogi, AIS Gur 43, Alumna

Ping! Ping! You sure are used to the alerts of notifications, after all, you are also a proud (maybe not so proud) victim of the world of WhatsApp. A talking medium, a whole university, and a way to stalk anyone's Last Seen, WhatsApp is all, and much more, and the same applies to the shenanigans you have to endure in it.

Graphic: Kritik Kant, AIS Gurugram 43, X B



The gift of FAMILY

Right on dot, at 7 am, multiple photos of flowers and sunrises with a bright 'Good morning' and a motivational quote pasted on a generic background beckon you. Do not make the mistake of thinking that all these messages are the same, oh, no! One will motivate you to take on the day, while the other would tell you how you are the only saviour the world needs. From healthy lifestyle tips to poor dad jokes, the variety is fascinating, without a single escape, of course.

Unofficial cls grp

You may not be thankful for being in the 'official' WhatsApp group for the class, but you sure are very much thankful for being here, because this is where the not-a-topper students come for help, and even receive it. Drop a text in the group the night before submissions and someone definitely is bound to help you with your homework. Text here when you are late to the class and need someone to keep the teacher in a good mood till you reach the class. Thank God for the unofficialness!

Franz 4eva

789 Unread Messages

Thank God for best friends, and their WhatsApp groups. Such a notification might signal two things – either you replied promptly, or you slept early and missed all the drama that happened last night. Now, having major FOMO, you skim through the messages at lightening speed, catching up on all the references to quickly pinch in your contribution. And in no time you make it '2675 unread messages', for the other friend does not have a family group to wake them up.

Time to debate

You thought MUN was the ultimate test of your debating skills? Oh, you ignorant fool, this WhatsApp group is what tests your true debating skills and ends with you blocking your opponent. This group is your center stage for argument, so whenever you want to argue, all you have to do is send one message and watch the war ensue. Everyone here has strong opinions that can never be pacified, and after 40 or so messages, you will never be able to guess what caused all this mayhem.

Exploring caves

Fact file

Parth Bhalla

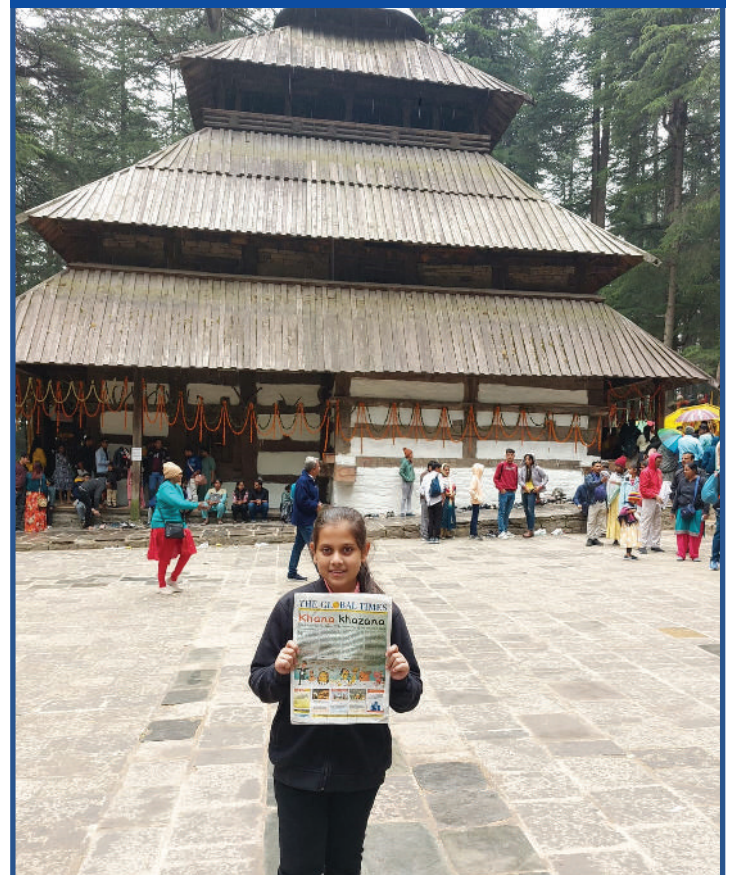
AIS VKC Lko, VIII A

- Son Doong, Vietnam, holds the Guinness World Record for being the largest cave globally. It is 150 m wide, 200 m high, and up to 9 kms in length.
- Mammoth cave situated in Kentucky, USA, is believed to be the longest limestone cave in the world till date, stretching for almost 405 miles.
- Kamachatka, Russia, is a 1 km long ice cave formed due to a stream flowing from the hot springs associated with the Mutnovsky volcano that passes beneath glacial ice.

- Considered to be the 'Everest of the Caves', Krubera, Georgia, USA, is the deepest cave in the world, with a staggering depth of 2197 meters.
- The Blue Grotto, Capri, Italy, is a sea cave where the sunlight passing through an underwater cavity makes the seawater look a vibrant blue colour.
- Dating back to 340 million years, Jenolan, Australia, is the oldest known cave that is open to the public.
- Ellora, India, is one of the largest rock-cut Hindu temple cave complexes in the world.



GT Travels to Himachal Pradesh



Ayesha Raghav, AIS Noida, VI I, poses with her copy of The Global Times in front of Hidimba Temple, Himachal Pradesh. Dedicated to Hidimba Devi, the temple was constructed by Maharaja Bahadur Singh in 1553, with only a 3 inches tall brass image representing Goddess Hidimba inside the temple.

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